

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Edmund J. Walsh on December 10, 2009.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1: ~~[[Apparatus adapted for use]]~~ A peer-to-peer collaboration system comprising a plurality of peer devices, ~~[[the apparatus]]~~ each peer device comprising a computer system with a memory and a computer-readable medium having computer executable modules in the memory, ~~[[the computer-executable modules each peer device comprising:]]~~

the modules comprising comprising:

an activity program adapted to implement a portion of a collaboration session on a first peer device of the plurality of peer devices, the activity program establishing a local copy of the shared space and modifying a local data copy of the shared space in response to deltas generated as a result of user actions within the collaboration system at the first peer device and other peer devices of the plurality of peer devices, and the

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activity program generating a component update request in response to an action by a user within the collaboration session, the user action indicating ~~[[a change to the shared space made with the component]]~~ an addition or update to the local copy of the shared space;

a component manager that receives the component update request from the activity program and has a parser that extracts from the request URL information which identifies the location of a file containing software component resources for satisfying the component update request;

a download manager that receives the URL information from the component manager and has a file retriever which asynchronously retrieves the file from the specified location and places the file in a staging area in the memory; and

an install manager that asynchronously installs the file, wherein the component manager is adapted to determine whether the requested software component is already installed on the ~~[[computer system]]~~ peer device and to selectively invoke the download manager based on the determination.

Claim 11: A method of operating a ~~[[computer system]]~~ peer device with a memory as part of a peer-to-peer collaboration system comprising at least one other ~~[[computer system]]~~ peer device maintaining a first local data copy of a shared space, the method comprising:

(a) implementing a portion of a collaboration session on a first peer device of a plurality of peer devices, the implementing comprising establishing a local copy of the shared

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space and modifying the local data copy of the shared space in response to deltas generated as a result of user actions within the collaboration system at the first peer device and other peer devices of the plurality of peer devices;

[[~~(a)~~]] (b) generating a component update request in response to receiving information about a component being used in a collaboration session involving the at least one other ~~[[computer]]~~ peer device, the component update request identifying the component, and the received information being generated dynamically while the collaboration system is in operation to modify the shared space based on input of a plurality of users collaborating using the peer-to-peer collaboration system;

[[~~(b)~~]] (c) parsing the request to extract from the request URL information which identifies the location of a file containing software component resources for satisfying the request and an identification of the component;

[[~~(c)~~]] (d) determining, based on the identification of the component, availability of the component;

[[~~(d)~~]] (e) selectively in response to the determination, using the URL information to asynchronously retrieve the file from the specified location; and

[[~~(e)~~]] (f) asynchronously installing the component from the file, whereby the computer system can use the component to maintain a second local data copy of the shared space that is synchronized with the first local data copy.

Claim 21: A computer program product stored on a computer readable medium for use in a peer-to-peer collaboration system including a ~~[[computer system]]~~ peer device with

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a memory, the ~~[[computer system]]~~ peer device being adapted to receive an update request generated as a result of user interaction with the peer-to-peer collaboration system by a plurality of members of a collaboration session, the computer program product comprising:

- program code for running a process that maintains a local copy of a shared space, the process being adapted to respond to input from the plurality of members and generates a request to update a component used in modifying the local copy of the shared space, the request being generated in response to user input indicating use of the component;

- program code that extracts from the request information which identifies the location of a first file for satisfying the request;

- program code that uses the information to retrieve the first file;

- program code that extracts from the first file an indicia of a trusted supplier and obtains second location information of a second file, the second file containing a second component;

- program code that uses the second location information to retrieve the second file;

- program code to extract from the second file the second component and an indicia of a supplier of the second component; and

- program code that selectively installs the second component when the indicia of the supplier is consistent with the indicia of a trusted supplier.

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Claim 32: ~~[[Apparatus for use in a]]~~ A peer-to-peer collaboration system comprising a ~~[[computer system]]~~ peer device with a memory and at least one other ~~[[computer system]]~~ peer device maintaining a first local data copy of a shared space, ~~[[apparatus]]~~ the peer device comprising:

means for implementing a collaboration session for a user, the means for implementing adapted to maintain a local copy of a data space shared by a plurality of collaborating members in the collaboration session and to receive an indication of a component in use within the collaboration session involving the at least one other ~~[[computer]]~~ peer device and to selectively generate an update request for the component based on the indication of use within the collaboration session;

means responsive to the request, for parsing the request to extract from the request URL information which identifies the location of a file containing software component resources for satisfying the request;

means for receiving the URL information and asynchronously retrieving the file from the identified location; and

means cooperating with the parsing means for installing the component from the file while the collaboration system is executing, whereby the ~~[[computer system]]~~ peer device can use the component to maintain a second local data copy of the shared space that is synchronized with the first local data copy.

Reasons for Allowance

3. Claims 1-30 and 32-41 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement for reasons for allowance: The prior art of record Donohue et al (U.S. 6,199,204 B1), Parthesarathy et al (U.S. 6,353,926 B1), Varma et al (U.S. 6,334,141 B1) and Carley et al (U.S. 6,701,345 B1) fails to teach the invention as claimed. For instance prior art further in light of the entire claim language was not found to teach "implementing a portion of a collaboration session on a first peer device of a plurality of peer devices, the implementing comprising establishing a local copy of the shared space and modifying the local data copy of the shared space in response to deltas generated as a result of user actions within the collaboration system at the first peer device and other peer devices of the plurality of peer devices".
5. Dependent claims further limit the independent claims and are considered allowable on the same basis as the independent claims as well as for further limitations set forth. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ASGHAR BILGRAMI whose telephone number is (571)272-3907. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tonia L.M. Dollinger can be reached on 571-272-4170. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/A. B./
Examiner, Art Unit 2443

/George C Neurauter, Jr./
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2443